

## Blackburn Prayers September 2020

Since March we have seen unprecedented events taking place in our country and around the world in response to the coronavirus outbreak. A regular update for parishes continues to be sent from Bishop Philip and the Coronavirus Task Group; those updates are also available on the main [coronavirus advice page](#) where you will also find other useful information and links onwards to further guidance.

In one of the earliest task group updates after lockdown Bishop Philip wrote that, above all, we must give ourselves at this time to the work of prayer. Several months on, prayer continues to be vital of course. That is why we are continuing to open with a special intention each day in Blackburn Prayers to help us to pray into the current crisis. Meanwhile, if you have not already subscribed to receive our Daily Prayers email into your inbox, please consider doing so. Simply [click the link here](#).

Bishop Julian's Bible verses continue, to meditate on and memorise each month as part of his ongoing 'Bishop's Bible Challenge' which is encouraging the spiritual discipline of learning Bible verses by heart. More information about the Bible Challenge [here](#). We also continue with Vision 2026 prayers reflecting the Vision key themes of Making Disciples, Being Witnesses, Growing Leaders and Youth/Children and Schools. And we have prayers for National Church Funded Projects in Blackpool, Blackburn and Preston.

If you have any comments, amendments or updates regarding Blackburn Prayers, please direct them to [karen.ashcroft@blackburn.anglican.org](mailto:karen.ashcroft@blackburn.anglican.org) in the first instance. For more about the parishes in this month's edition, click on the links taking you to either the parish website or its 'A Church Near You' site.

### Key: cw = churchwarden of vacant parish

#### Tuesday 1 September

Giles, hermit, c.710

Pray for all those who have been bereaved recently that they may sense God's loving presence in the midst of their grief. Pray for those who support them both informally and formally that they might have the wisdom and compassion they need to listen and support each individual.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** That many church members will be inspired by Bishop Julian's challenge to try learning Bible verses by heart, and that having God's Word stored in our hearts will equip us in our daily life.

**Diocese:** [Preston All Saints](#), Rev Nathan Buttery

**Braunschweig:** The link between Blackburn Diocese and the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

**Free State:** The Bishop of the Free State, **Bishop Dintoe** and his family

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Ondo (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Stephen Oni; Calabar (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Tunde Adeleye; Kinshasa (Congo) The Rt Rev Achille Mutshindu

### Wednesday 2 September

Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901, 1942

Pray for all who work in our hospitals. Those on the frontline, nurses, doctors, healthcare chaplains and allied health professionals and those who work behind the scenes to support their work, from the domestic and catering staff to laboratory workers, administrators and security staff. Pray that they would have courage and strength as they work, as well as empathy and compassion in all they do.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** For Ruth Hassall, our Director of Discipleship, as she continues getting to know the parishes; supporting them in developing confident Christian disciples

**Diocese:** [Preston St Cuthbert Fulwood](#), Rev Mark Bradford, Rev Kamran Bhatti, Rev Michael Hutchinson, Rev Dr Mike Clayton

**Braunschweig:** Growth in links between Blackburn Cathedral and the Braunschweiger Dom

**Free State:** The Cathedral Church of St Michael and St Andrew and its Dean, **the Very Rev Lazarus Mohapi**

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Ontario (Canada) The Rt Rev Michael Oulton; Calcutta (North India) The Rt Rev Probal Kanto Dutta

**Meeting:** Bishop's Budget Team

**Clergy Moves:** Rev Dr Tom Woolford to be instituted as Interim Vicar of New Longton All Saints

### Thursday 3 September

Gregory the Great, bishop, teacher of the faith, 604

As we give thanks for the wisdom of Pope Gregory the Great, pray for Bishops Julian, Philip and Jill, Archdeacons Mark and David as they lead the Diocese and support the Parishes in response to the ever-changing circumstances of the pandemic.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** For Carolyn Barton, our Vision Coordinator as she continues to get to know the parishes and seeks to support them in implementing Vision 2026

**Diocese:** [Preston St John](#) and [St George the Martyr](#), Rev Sam Haigh, Rev David Craven, Rev Jason Gardner, Rev Tim Roberts

**Braunschweig:** The Local Ecumenical Partnership between Poulton, Carleton and Singleton and Flöthe

**Free State:** The Bishop's Council

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Ogbomoso (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Titus Babtunde Olayinka; Caledonia (Canada) The Rt Rev David TJ Lehmann; Calgary (Canada) The Most Rev Gregory Kerr-Wilson

### Friday 4 September

Birinus, bishop, 650

Pray and give thanks for all those key workers who help to keep day to day life running during these difficult times; from those who deliver post and food to those who enable the delivery of medicines and other vital supplies to our communities.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for the Whalley Abbey Steering group as they work towards reopening the Abbey as a Centre for Christian Discipleship and Prayer in September 2021

**Diocese:** [Preston St Stephen](#), Rev David Hanson; also in this Benefice Preston St Stephen's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** The link between the Lancaster City Parishes and the Goslar City Parishes

**Free State:** For greater financial responsibility

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Oregon (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Michael Hanley; California (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Marc Andrus

**Clergy Moves:** Rev Aiden Edwards to be instituted as Interim Vicar of Burnley St Andrew with St Margaret and Burnley St James

## Saturday 5 September

Give thanks and ask for God's blessing on all those who are volunteering in our communities at this time. We particularly remember all those supporting the vulnerable and those making or providing supplies of food or equipment to key workers.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** For a deepening of the prayer life of our churches, and for those hoping to run Pathways to Prayer events around the Diocese later this year.

**Diocese:** [Preston The Risen Lord](#), Rev Canon Alistair McHaffie, Mr Dan Freeman; also in this Benefice Preston St Matthew's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** The link between St Luke, Brierfield and Dellingsen.

**Free State:** For Mosamaria Aids Ministry

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Orlu (Nigeria) The Most Rev Bennett Okoro; Cameroon (West Africa) The Rt Rev Dibo Thomas-Babyngton Elango; Kirinyaga (Kenya) The Rt Rev Joseph Kibichwa

## Sunday 6 September Harvest Thanksgiving; Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Proper 18

Pray in these challenging times for all those called by God to licenced ministries in the church both lay and ordained, that each individual would have a vision for their ministry and feel affirmed in their call.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** For churches using the Generosity, Gift and Grace course, that many will catch a fresh vision of how generous giving to their local church can impact their community for Christ.

**Diocese:** [Ribbleton](#), Rev Keith Fenton, Capt Dave Thorp

**Braunschweig:** The parish link between St Mary's Clitheroe and Schandelah and Gardessen

**Free State:** For the link between our two Dioceses

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa - The Most Rev Thabo Makgoba - Archbishop of Capetown and Primate of Southern Africa

## Monday 7 September

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary  
week 23

Pray for all those who live and work in care homes or sheltered housing complexes at this time. Pray for safety for all and that those who work to care for the residents would have compassion and wisdom as they work.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Blackpool Ministry Experience:** Pray for the new Blackpool Ministry Experience participants as they move into their new house and begin to form their community for the next ten months

**Vision 2026:** For those who offer the ministry of spiritual direction, and for those looking for a new spiritual director or companion.

**Diocese:** University of Central Lancashire, Rev Canon Andrew Clitheroe

**Braunschweig:** The parish link between Euxton and Wolfenbüttel (Church of Reconciliation/St James/Gross Stöckheim)

**Free State:** For the President of the Republic of South Africa

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Oru (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Geoffrey Chukwunye; Canberra and Goulburn (Australia) The Rt Rev Mark Short

**Meeting:** Bishop's Leadership Team

**Tuesday 8 September**  
**Birth of the Blessed Virgin**  
**Mary**

As we remember the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, pray for all those who are unable to physically visit those they care about during the pandemic and those who feel disconnected from all that gives them a sense of who they are. Pray that each community and church family would be a source of hope and support who feel isolated and alone at this time.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** For men, women and children across Lancashire to hear the gospel in their own language.

**Diocese:** [Tunstall Deanery Officers](#), Rev Nancy Goodrich, Mrs Elizabeth Battersby-Hill

**Braunschweig:** The Local Ecumenical Partnership between Warton and Timmerlah

**Free State:** For the urban poor in the townships

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Osaka (Japan) The Rt Rev Andrew Haruhisa Iso; Canterbury (England) The Most Rev and Rt Hon Justin Welby (Primate)

**Meeting:** Mission and Pastoral Committee; Property Committee; Finance Committee

**Wednesday 9 September**  
Charles Fuge Lowder, priest,  
1880

Give thanks and pray for all research and laboratory staff as they process essential tests and develop new tests. Give them resilience as they strive to understand more about the virus. Inspire their thinking around new ways of approaching the virus.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** For plentiful workers of all backgrounds for the plentiful harvest fields across Lancashire.

**Diocese:** [Bolton-le-Sands Holy Trinity](#), Rev Nancy Goodrich; also in this Benefice Bolton-le-Sands CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** For new parish links to be built or old ones renewed

**Free State:** For Fr Joshua Skee, the Free State Link Officer

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Osun (Nigeria) The Rt Rev James Afolabi Popoola; Cape Coast (West Africa) The Rt Rev Victor Atta-Baffoe

**Thursday 10 September**

Pray for all those involved in ensuring communication networks function in these challenging times and those who work in administration to keep essential services running smoothly. Pray that they would feel valued in the vital work they do and to be able to work safely and diligently.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Making Disciples - Galatians 5.22**

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**Vision 2026:** For a visitation of the Holy Spirit on Lancashire to light beacons in every community.

**Diocese:** [Carnforth Christ Church](#), Rev Canon Stephen Jones; also in this Benefice Carnforth Christ Church CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Growth in links in the area of Social Responsibility

**Free State:** For those engaged with the Church Schools in Welkom and Bloemfontein

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Osun North (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Abiodun T Olaoye; Cape Town (Southern Africa) The Most Rev Thabo Makgoba (Primate); Carlisle (England) The Rt Rev James Scobie Newcome

## Friday 11 September

As the pandemic continues pray for public health professionals and all in positions of influence that they would have wisdom and compassion as they analyse statistics and research. Pray that they would seek the common good in all complex and difficult decisions they need to make at this time.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** For it to become normal for every parish to be planting congregations and churches to fulfil the Anglican ambition to be a "Christian presence in every community" across Lancashire.

**Diocese:** [Caton with Littledale St Paul](#) in plurality with [Over Kellet St Cuthbert](#), Rev Paul Boulter; also in this Benefice Caton St Paul's CofE Primary School, Over Kellet Wilson's Endowed CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** The theological discussions between our two Dioceses

**Free State:** For the Parish Clergy, the Self-Supporting ministers and Lay Ministers

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Osun North East (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Ebenezer Akorede Okuyelu; Cashel and Ossory (Ireland) The Rt Rev Michael Andrew James Burrows

**Meeting:** Audit/Risk/Governance Committee; Diocesan Advisory Committee

## Saturday 12 September

Pray for those who work in food production, food processing or distribution at this difficult time. Give thanks for those running and supporting food banks enabling those who are the most vulnerable to have enough to eat each day.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** For our church communities to enable people to encounter the love of Jesus in word and in action.

**Diocese:** [East Lonsdale](#), Rev Mark Cannon; also in this Benefice Leck St Peter's CofE Primary School, Melling St Wilfrid CofE Primary School, Tatham Fells CofE Primary School, Wray with Botton Endowed Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All who are involved in the next Kirchentag in Dortmund 2019

**Free State:** For the work of the Mothers' Union

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Ottawa (Canada) Vacant; Central Buganda (Uganda) The Rt Rev Michael Lubowa

## Sunday 13 September Harvest Thanksgiving; Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity Proper 19

Give thanks for those who, despite the challenges of the pandemic, through their talents inspire our worship through writing, music, visual and performing arts.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** For all future baptism and confirmation candidates to be fired up to be beacons of faith in their schools, workplaces and communities.

**Diocese:** [Hornby with Claughton and Whittington with Arkholme and Gressingham](#), Rev Michael Hampson; also in this Benefice Arkholme CofE Primary School, Hornby Stg Margaret's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** The work of the Meissen Commission, working for full and visible unity between our two churches

**Free State:** For the St Agnes Guild

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Anglican Church of South America - The Most Rev Gregory James Venables - Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Church of South America and Bishop of Argentina



**Monday 14 September**  
**Holy Cross Day**

As we acknowledge the cross of Christ let us recommit ourselves to building up the body of Christ in our communities inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Blackpool Centre of Mission:** Pray for the start of the new academic year and the Centre of Mission being able to contribute to the life of the local schools. Pray for Matt Rowley as he starts his Ordination training.

**Vision 2025:** For God to raise up intercessors who are ambitious, insightful and who storm the gates of heaven.

**Diocese:** [Silverdale St John](#), Rev Mary Ashton; also in this Benefice Silverdale St John's CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All involved in the work for the Foundation of Ecumenical Learning, including those serving in Blackpool

**Free State:** For the Guild of St Bernard Mizeki

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Otukpo (Nigeria) The Rt Rev David Bello; Central Busoga (Uganda) The Rt Rev Patrick Wakula; Kisangani (Congo) The Rt Rev Lambert Funga Botolome

**Tuesday 15 September**  
Cyprian, bishop, martyr, 258;  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary  
week 24

Give thanks for those who stand up for justice in our communities and pray for all those who serve our communities at this time, from the police, to those who collect the bins and keep public transport running to those elected to serve on our local and county councils.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** Give thanks for all who exercise leadership in our Diocese, for clergy and lay leaders. Pray that they may have the faithfulness, the wisdom and the joy that they will need to lead churches that transform their local communities in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Diocese:** [Slyne with Hest St Luke](#) and Halton St Wilfrid with Aughton St Saviour, Rev Susan Seed; also in this Benefice Halton St Wilfrid's CofE Primary School, Slyne with Hest St Luke's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Growth in links between University Chaplaincies in our two Dioceses; Growth in school partnerships between our two Dioceses

**Free State:** For the judiciary based in Bloemfontein

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Owerri (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Chukwuma Oparah; Central Ecuador (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Victor Scantlebury; Kita Kanto (Japan) The Rt Rev Zerubbabel Katsuichi Hirota

**Meeting:** Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel

**Wednesday 16 September**  
Ninian, bishop, c.432;  
Edward Bouverie Pusey,  
priest, 1882

Pray for those grieving the death of a loved one that they would find the support they need and sense God's love surrounding them.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** Pray that all might hear God's call in their life and be ready to respond with faithful obedience. Pray that all Christians may feel equipped to live out their faith in the family, the workplace and in their local communities.

**Diocese:** [Warton St Oswald with Yealand Conyers St John](#), Rev Robin Figg, also in this Benefice Warton Archbishop Hutton's VC Primary School, Yealand CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Growth in links between youth workers in our two Dioceses

**Free State:** For the Archbishop of the Province of Southern Africa

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Owo (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Stephen Ayodeji Fagbemi; Central Florida (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Gregory Brewer

**Thursday 17 September**  
Hildegard, abbess, visionary,  
1179

As we remember Hildegard who saw herself as 'a feather on the breath of God', pray for our communities that they would be places of trust and friendship where there is an openness to hear the Gospel.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for more lay leaders in our congregations.

**Diocese:** [Whalley Deanery Officers](#), Rev Jonathan Carmyllie, Rev Andy Froud, Mr David Holt, Mr Miles Leadbeater

**Braunschweig:** All working in church kindergartens

**Free State:** For Chaplains

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Oxford (England) The Rt Rev Steven Croft; Central Gulf Coast (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Russell Kendrick; Central Melanesia (Melanesia) The Most Rev Leonard Dawea (Primate)

**Meeting:** Financial Assistance Group; Investment Committee

**Friday 18 September**

Pray for those who are struggling with their mental health as result of the pandemic, that they would find a sense of peace and affirmation.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for more vocations to the priesthood and to the religious life, especially for vocations amongst young adults.

**Diocese:** [Balderstone](#), [Mellor](#) and [Samlesbury](#), Vacant, Mr Peter Singleton (cw), Mr David Holroyd (cw), Mr Eric Mather (cw), Ms Betty Green (cw), Mr Len Redmayne (cw), Mr John Eastham (cw); also in this Benefice Balderstone St Leonard's CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School, Mellor St Mary CofE Primary School, Samlesbury CofE School

**Braunschweig:** All preparing for confirmation in the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

**Free State:** For all victims of crime

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Oyo (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Williams Oluwarotimi Aladekugbe; Central New York (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev DeDe Duncan-Probe

**Saturday 19 September**  
Theodore, archbishop, 690

Pray for national government, the cabinet and civil servants that they would make wise and compassionate decisions in these challenging times that protect the most vulnerable and build up our common life.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for all whose leadership is hidden or unacknowledged and for those who are yet to discover the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given them.

**Diocese:** Bowland ([Bolton-by-Bowland](#) and [Grindleton](#)), Rev Mark Williams; also in this Benefice Bolton-by-Bowland CofE Primary School, Grindleton CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All who teach RE in state schools within the Braunschweiger Landeskirche

**Free State:** For those engaged in youth work across the Free State

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pacong (South Sudan) The Rt Rev Joseph Maker Atot; Central Newfoundland (Canada) The Rt Rev John Watton; Kitale (Kenya) The Rt Rev Stephen Kewasis

**Sunday 20 September**  
**Harvest Thanksgiving;**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after**  
**Trinity**  
Proper 20

Pray for those without a permanent home, those living on the streets, sofa surfing or relying on hostels for a bed each night during the pandemic; that they would find places where they could receive the support they need.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Being Witnesses - Psalm 34.8**

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for lay and ordained leaders who are struggling, for those who have lost the joy of ministry or who feel despondent or overwhelmed by the challenges that face them. Pray that they draw strength from a deeper awareness of the power of God in their lives.

**Diocese:** [Chipping St Bartholomew](#), Rev Fiona Jenkins; also in this Benefice Chipping Brabins Endowed School

**Braunschweig:** For new links between our secondary schools

**Free State:** For our linked parishes

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan - The Most Rev Justin Badi Arama – Bishop of Juba and Archbishop of the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

**Monday 21 September**  
**Matthew, Apostle and**  
**Evangelist**

As we celebrate the feast of St. Matthew the tax collector, pray for the economy of our nation at this time and our communities. Pray for all those whose businesses who are grappling with new ways of working and those who have lost or fear losing their livelihoods because of the pandemic.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said: "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**M:Power:** Pray for the new students who will be starting the third M:Power programme. Pray that god will shape them as they look at what transformation means for them.

**Vision 2026:** Pray for all charged with the responsibility of discerning vocation in others in the local church and across the Diocese. Pray for our Director of Vocations, Nick McKee, our Vocations Team, our Assistant Directors of Ordinands and our Examining Chaplains.

**Diocese:** [Clitheroe](#), [Chatburn](#) and [Downham](#), Rev Andy Froud, Rev Catherine Hale-Heighway

**Braunschweig:** All who work at Braunschweig Theological Centre

**Free State:** For **Canon John Hall**, Commissary to the Bishop of the Free State

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Kiteto (Tanzania) The Rt Rev Isaiah Chambala; Kitgum (Uganda) The Rt Rev Wilson Kitara; Kitui (Kenya) The Rt Rev Josephat Mule

**Meeting:** Bishop's Appointment Team

**Clergy Moves:** Rev Canon Mark Soady to be instituted as Rector of Rufford and Tarleton

**Tuesday 22 September**  
Daily Eucharistic Lectionary  
week 25

As we come to the first day of autumn, we pray for those who feel their lives are on hold during the pandemic, that they may find and retain a sense of hope rooted in the Gospel.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said: "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Vision 2026:** For parents that they have confidence and are equipped to raise children who have a living relationship with God.

**Diocese:** [Clitheroe St James](#), Rev Mark Pickett, Rev Ian Sarginson; also in this Benefice Clitheroe St James CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All training for ministry at Braunschweig Theological Centre

**Free State:** For the Blackburn Link Committee

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Panama (Central America) The Rt Rev Julio Murray Thompson (Primate); Central Pennsylvania (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Audrey Scanlan; Kivu (Rwanda) The Rt Rev Augustin Ahimana



**Wednesday 23 September**  
Ember Day

Pray for all prisoners, prison officers, prison chaplains, governors and support staff. Pray too for the criminal justice system, magistrates and judges as they continue to administer justice in these challenging times.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said: "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Vision 2026:** For children and young people that they are able to identify their gifts and recognise God's calling on their lives, allowing them to passionately serve and lead others.

**Diocese:** [Great Harwood St Bartholomew and St John](#), Rev Graham Birch; also in this Benefice St Bartholomew's Parish CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School, St John's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Chair of the Braunschweig Link Committee in Blackburn Diocese

**Free State:** For the Cathedral Staff and members of the Diocesan Office

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pankshin (Nigeria) The Rt Rev Dr Olumuyiwa Ajayi; Central Philippines (Philippines) The Rt Rev Dixie Copanut Taclobao

**Thursday 24 September**

On this National Day of Prayer for schools, pray for all schools across the Diocese, their head teachers, teaching staff and support staff as they start a new school year. We also give thanks for all the staff working with the Diocesan Board of Education. Continue to bless and inspire them as they provide resources for schools.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said: "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Vision 2026:** For young people's faith, rooted in Jesus Christ, to be nurtured, disciplined and shared within their communities.

**Diocese:** [Hurst Green](#) and [Mitton](#) in plurality with [Ribchester St Wilfrid](#), Rev Canon Brian McConkey, Rev Karen Herschell; also in this Benefice Ribchester St Wilfrid's CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Ralph Ohainski, Chair of the Blackburn Link Committee in Braunschweig

**Free State:** For the Fellowship of Vocation

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Panyana (South Sudan) The Rt Rev Seme Nigo Abinda; Central Solomons (Melanesia) The Rt Rev Ben Seka; Central Tanganyika (Tanzania) The Rt Rev Dickson Chilongani

**Friday 25 September**

Lancelot Andrewes, bishop, spiritual writer, 1626;  
Sergei of Radonezh, monastic reformer, teacher of the faith, 1392;  
Ember Day

Give thanks for our Cathedral Church, the Dean and Canons and its ministry to the Diocese as the mother church. Pray for wisdom and inspiration as they respond to the changing requirements in managing the pandemic.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said: "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Vision 2026:** For the Youth Provision Development Team's engagement with churches across the Diocese to empower, instil confidence and enable growth in leaders and youth ministries.

**Diocese:** [Langho St Leonard](#), Rev Tracy Swindells; also in this Benefice Langho and Billington St Leonard's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All who work in the RE-Institute (ARPM) at Wolfenbüttel

**Free State:** For the Anglican Women's Fellowship

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Central Zambia (Central Africa) The Rt Rev Derek Gary Kamukwamba (Diocesan Bishop)

## Saturday 26 September

Wilson Carlile, founder of the Church Army, 1942;  
Ember Day

Pray for all those called to licensed ministry in the church, particularly those being ordained deacon and priest this weekend, that they may feel God's guiding hand in all they are and all they do.

### **Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said: "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Vision 2026:** Pray for all schools and academies to be beacons of faith in their communities.

**Diocese:** [Read St John and Simonstone St Peter](#), Rev Robert Fielding; also in this Benefice Read St John's CofE Primary School, Simonstone St Peter's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** All involved in the Synod of the Braunschweiger Landeskirche  
**Free State:** For all Archdeacons and their respective Archdeaconries

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Paraguay (South America) The Rt Rev Peter John Henry Bartlett; Central Zimbabwe (Central Africa) The Rev Ignatius Makumbe; Kobe (Japan) The Rt Rev Augustine Naoaki Kobayashi

**Meeting:** Bishop's Council and Directors

## Sunday 27 September Harvest Thanksgiving; Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Proper 21

Pray for all parish clergy and those who hold office within each parish that they would have the strength, imagination and wisdom to enable each community to know it is prayed for, cared for and loved despite restrictions of the pandemic.

### **Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said: "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Vision 2026:** Pray for all schools and academies to encourage and equip pupils to be courageous advocates for the Gospel, fighting injustice locally and globally.

**Diocese:** [Rishton St Peter and St Paul](#), Rev Christopher Holden; also in this Benefice St Peter's and St Paul's CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Bishop Christoph and all who work in the Landeskirchenamt (Diocesan Offices) at Wolfenbüttel

**Free State:** For all school Chaplains

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan - The Most Rev Ezekiel Kumir Kondo - Archbishop of the Province of Sudan and Bishop of Khartoum

**Clergy Moves:** Retirement of Rev Dr Stephen Adesanya (Burnley St Cuthbert in plurality with Brierfield St Luke)

## Monday 28 September

Daily Eucharistic Lectionary  
week 26

Give thanks for all the different ways we are able to keep in touch with each other and come together virtually. Pray that we continue to learn new ways to come together and support each other at this difficult time.

### **Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Preston Resourcing Parish:** Where we have both Anglo Catholic and Evangelical Charismatic expressions of church within the parish. Pray for mutual flourishing and a strengthening of these distinctive traditions.

**Vision 2026:** For all schools and academies to encourage and equip pupils to be courageous advocates for the Gospel, fighting injustice locally and globally.

**Diocese:** [Salesbury St Peter](#), Rev Martin Duerden, Rev Sam Cheesman; also in this Benefice Salesbury CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Deputy Bishop Thomas Hofer

**Free State:** For all involved in Ordination training

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Patna (North India) The Most Rev Dr Philip Marandih; Chandigarh (North India) The Rt Rev Younas Massey

**Tuesday 29 September**  
**Michael and All Angels**

As we celebrate the feast of Michael and all Angels, pray for all those who are dying, those who watch with them and those who care for them at home, in hospital and hospice that they would sense the love of God that passes all understanding even in the darkest of times.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Vision 2026:** For the teams giving support to parishes through finance, safeguarding, communications, legal and governance, as they share their knowledge and skills for the benefit of mission.

**Diocese:** [Waddington](#), ([West Bradford](#)), Rev Christopher Wood; also in this Benefice Waddington and West Bradford CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Growth in links between the Education Departments in our two Dioceses

**Free State:** For Bishop Tom and Bishop Paddy, former Bishops of the Diocese.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pelotas (Brazil) The Rt Rev Renato Da Cruz Raatz; Chelmsford (England) Vacant

**Wednesday 30 September**  
Jerome, translator, teacher of  
the faith, 420

Pray for all the young people. Those who have started, or will be starting at university, college, in apprenticeships or in other vocational training places; and for those who are uncertain about the future, that they may know the assurance of God's love for them in the midst of their anxiety.

**Bishop's Memory Verse: Growing Leaders – Matthew 19.26**

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**Vision 2026:** For the support provided to clergy and their families to have suitable homes from which to be leaders in mission.

**Diocese:** West Pendleside ([Whalley](#), [Sabden](#), [Pendleton](#)), Rev Jonathan Carmyllie, Rev Jane Lee; also in this Benefice Whalley CofE Primary School

**Braunschweig:** Growth in links between parishes and Dioceses in England and Germany

**Free State:** For all engaged in national and local politics

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pennsylvania (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Rev Daniel Gutierrez; Chester (England) The Rt Rev Peter Robert Forster

**Clergy Moves:** Retirement of Rev Martin Duerden (Salesbury St Peter); Retirement of Rev Graham Ashworth (Leyland St Ambrose)